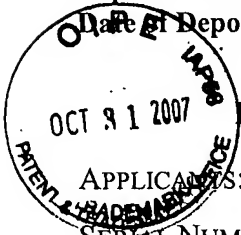


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Date of Deposit: October 31, 2007



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Keefe *et al.*

SERIAL NUMBER: 10/729,581

EXAMINER: Fredman, Jeffrey Norman

FILING DATE: December 3, 2003

ART UNIT: 1637

FOR: METHOD FOR *IN VITRO* SELECTION OF 2'-SUBSTITUTED NUCLEIC ACIDS

MAIL STOP RCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 31, 2007
Boston, Massachusetts

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

This paper is in response to the final Office Action mailed December 20, 2006 and in further response to the Notice of Appeal filed June 20, 2007 in the above-identified application. With three-month extension, this response is due on or before November 20, 2007. Applicants submit herewith a Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time, along with the appropriate fee.

Applicants submit this paper in conjunction with a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 and the fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e). This paper constitutes a proper submission under 37 C.F.R. §1.114(c).

Accordingly, Applicants believe no additional fees are due in connection with this filing. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 23239-544.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.